

PETS OF THE PARK

How and Where They Pass the Winter

THE RACCOONS AND POSSUMS

Comfortably Housed and Cared for—How the Other Members of the Happy Family Spend the Winter.

Few persons visit Ball Park at this time of year. Yet there are some things worth seeing even these chilly days. Just now the zoological and ornithological specimens are going into winter quarters. The ring-tailed raccoons have retired to the seclusion of a tight box in the hollow walls of which have been carefully stuffed with hay. Within the quiet of this box they will be snugly and quietly sucking their fat and juicy thumbs. All summer these raccoons are the special pets of all visitors, and are fed all sorts of provisions. They will eat anything from a gum drop to snipe on toast and as a result are as fat as the prize pig at a county fair. The motto is, "Make fat while the sun shines," for in winter they eat nothing, but hide away in their dark boxes and, like their cousin, Bruin, sleep contentedly till spring.

The opossums are less greedy in summer, but keep steadily at it the whole year. They are natives of the land where frosts are less severe than in John Ball park, and as a result they got a warm corner in a place provided near the green house. The only time the opossums sleep is when they see one of the colored members of a city approaching their enclosure. The reason the fondness for juicy possum meat which the colored race has, and will quietly drop into an apparent slumber until the danger is passed. In a room near the opossums are the pheasants, which are birds of a warm climate.

The owls and crows. The owls and the crows are all native birds accustomed to our climate, and are left all winter in the enclosure, where they are seen in the boiling days of summer. It is true the crow complains at times of the heady weather and swears occasionally at the owl, whose midnight solos disturb his slumbers, but he will caw in the spring right merrily and forget the minor privations to which he has been subjected. Anyway, he ought not to forget that while he has lost his freedom he is no longer forced to scratch his supper from under a snow drift, and as long as he knows the necessities of life will be provided he is not too happy.

The most dissatisfied specimens seem to be the wild geese. When not enclosed they will leave the water and start on a walking match across the nearest hill. Their wings are clipped so they are unable to fly, else they would not remain long enough for a sportsman to get a shot at them. They are splendid specimens and were donated to the city by Lyman T. Kinney, who has a whole flock of them on his farm.

The rabbits burrow the same as other rabbits, but they may be seen skipping about and nibbling the young twigs at all hours of the day and night. The three-legged deer will remain in his old enclosure in the park and will be carefully fed and cared for during the cold weather. No stable is needed for him as the cool climate agrees with his constitution. Every precaution has been taken to prevent a repetition of the raid made by dogs last winter.

The greenhouse is filled with all plants which it pays to preserve and all bulbs and roots which need housing have been gathered. A large number of beds for flowers next year are being prepared this fall and the necessary repairs are being made. The leaves which fall from the trees are not being turned, as is so generally practiced, but they are being gathered and will be allowed to rot. They will be used in making flower beds. Many improvements will be made before the park is opened in the spring and everybody will be delightfully surprised when they make their first visit to the park next summer.

Lincoln Park. Lincoln park lacks the attraction of a menagerie, but it is a lovely spot and will be more lovely next summer. In a long bed near the pavilion are "heeled in" a large number of shrubs and trees, to be set in the park. Already the main drives have been flanked with young birches, horse chestnuts, mountain oaks and other trees. In the bed yet to be set out are to be seen Norway maples, purple beeches, catalpas, mountain ash, mountain birches, European birches, African larch, white lilacs, altheas, Kilmarnock willows, syringas, Irish jumpers, balsams, Norway spruce, cedars, hemlocks, Austrian pine and many others in great abundance. A gang of men are busily engaged in setting out the trees and shrubs and placing the park in trim for cold weather. Large heaps of fertilizer are scattered about and will be spaded into the flower beds before winter begins.

Highland park is receiving some attention and sooner or later will be one of the most popular parks in the city. The wooded slopes and valleys are a natural park and with the touches the committee on parks is putting upon it, it will be the favorite spot of the north eastern part of the city.

The Fulton street park is also receiving some attention. A fine cement walk has been laid on the west side and will be extended next summer. The basin of the fountain will be surrounded with an iron fence. Within the fence a circle twelve feet wide will be settled and a cement walk will extend around it outside the fence.

SOUTHERN WAR CLAIMS.

Hundreds of Millions of Dollars' Worth Pressed for Payment by Democrats.

The committee on war claims have reported in favor of more than \$70,000,000 worth of claims for damages caused by the devastation of war. If there is any thing settled in law it is that no nation ever undertakes to repair the damages of war. Where the accident of destruction falls, there it rests. But there is grave danger at this very moment that we shall at this late day be roped into vast payments in that behalf. These claims come to us under the sanction of religious societies, to pay for rent of churches, to pay for damages to schools and colleges. Each for a small amount, but the aggregate will appal the country. In addition to the \$70,000,000 already reported by the committee on war claims \$400,000,000 and perhaps \$600,000,000 of such claims have been referred to the court of claims. —Ex-Speaker Reed.

CLOAKS

A STUPENDOUS CLOAK SALE

CLOAKS

AT SPRING & COMPANY'S.

9,000 CLOAKS! 9,000!



THE MOST GIGANTIC CLOAK SALE KNOWN!

AN OFFER, MATCHLESS IN ITS INDUCEMENTS TO BUYERS!

SIX DAYS MASSING OF THE PEOPLE.

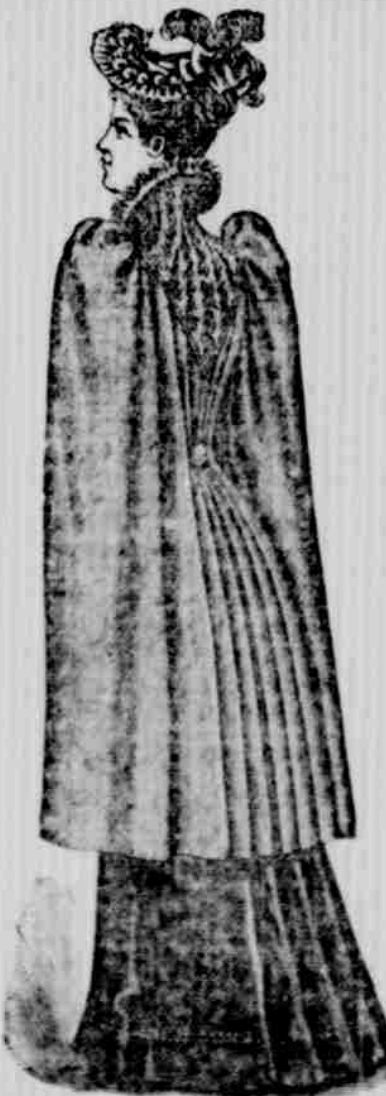
Nine thousand Ladies', Misses' and Children's OUTER WRAPS to be distributed among the people, beginning Monday morning, October 31, and continuing Tuesday, November 1; Wednesday, November 2; Thursday, November 3; Friday, November 4, and Saturday, November 5. These days will be devoted to the greatest cloak sale ever known. 957 garments unsold of the Vossen stock included, regardless of value. This extraordinary sale will be conducted in the immense new annex clearance salesroom, and at prices marked. We positively cannot afford to employ extra help, though fifty or sixty clerks will be concentrated in this department during the sale. All garments will be grouped on huge racks and the prices plainly marked as follows:

One Rack at - - \$1.70	One Rack at - - \$7.85
One Rack at - - 2.63	One Rack at - - 8.40
One Rack at - - 3.87	One Rack at - - 9.25
One Rack at - - 4.75	One Rack at - - 10.65
One Rack at - - 5.92	One Rack at - - 11.25
One Rack at - - 6.38	

On these racks will be found an endless variety of garments worth three or four times the asking price affording people of limited means the grandest opportunity ever known.

Those who cannot get waited upon readily may help themselves, choosing their own garments, for we are determined that all shall have an equal chance at this money-saving sale.

In all your lifetime perhaps another like opportunity will not be afforded you. A few styles are illustrated in this announcement; hundred more cannot be shown here. There are Plush Jackets, Sacques, Wraps, Cloth Jackets, Braided Wraps, Capes, Mantels, in fact every kind of garment that is new in style, comfortable and durable. Ladies, if you contemplate purchasing your time to do it is during this sale.



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